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Mr. Lyle D. Jaffe **Dockets Management** FDA/DHHS 12420 Parklawn Drive Room I-23 Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Mr. Jaffe:

In light of an article published in PETA's Spring 1999 Animal Times, I am writing in support of the petition to ban the forced molting of layer hens.

The sickening torment and deplorable living conditions these hens must endure, culminating in their untimely slaughter, is nothing short of disgraceful. I am disgusted that such savagery is perpetrated upon these living creatures by farm workers. Further, through their inaction, government regulators are condoning these shameful practices.

In addition, the article also stated that research has shown forced molting results in sick hens, which has become a major cause of salmonella poisoning in eggs.

I ask that you take whatever action is necessary to stop this inhumane treatment.

Dated: 5-15-99

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